

# The LUAXML library

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# 1 Introduction

LuaXML is pure lua library for processing and serializing of the `xml` files. The base code has been written by Paul Chakravarti, with minor changes which brings Lua 5.3 or HTML 5 support. On top of that, new modules for accessing the `xml` files using DOM like methods or CSS selectors<sup>1</sup> have been added.

The documentation is divided to three parts – first part deals with the DOM library, second part describes the low-level libraries and the third part is original documentation by Paul Chakravarti.

## 2 The DOM\_Object library

This library can process a `xml` sources using DOM like functions. To load it, you need to require `luaxml-domobject.lua` file. The `parse` function provided by the library creates `DOM_Object` object, which provides several methods for processing the `xml` tree.

```
local dom = require "luaxml-domobject"
local document = [[
<html>
<head><title>sample</title></head>
<body>
<h1>test</h1>
<p>hello</p>
</body>
</html>
]]

-- dom.parse returns the DOM_Object
local obj = dom.parse(document)
-- it is possible to call methods on the object
local root_node = obj:root_node()
for _, x in ipairs(root_node:get_children()) do
    print(x:get_element_name())
end
```

The details about available methods can be found in the API docs, section 7.1. The above code will load a `xml` document, it will get the ROOT element and print all it's children element names. The `DOM_Object:get_children` function returns Lua table, so it is possible to loop over it using standard table functions.

html
------

### 2.1 HTML parsing

You can parse HTML documents using the `DOM_Object.html_parse` function. This parser is slower than the default XML parser, but it can load files that would cause errors in the XML mode. It can handle wrongly nested HTML tags, inline

<sup>1</sup>Thanks to Leaf Corcoran for CSS selector parsing code.

JavaScript and CSS styles, and other HTML features that would cause XML errors.

```
dom = require "luaxml-domobject"
local document = [[
<html>
<head><title>sample</title></head>
<body>
<h1>test</h1>
<p>hello
<p>another paragraph
<ul>
<li>first
<li>second
</ul>
</body>
</html>
]]

-- dom.html_parse returns the DOM_Object
obj = dom.html_parse(document)
-- print names of all elements contained in body
for _, x in ipairs(obj:query_selector("body *")) do
  tex.print(x:get_element_name().. "\\par")
end
```

```
h1
p
p
ul
li
li
```

## 2.2 Void elements

The `DOM_Object.parse` function tries to support the HTML void elements, such as `<img>` or `<hr>`. They cannot have closing tags, a parse error occurs when the closing tags are used.

It is possible to define a different set of void elements using the second parameter for `DOM_Object.parse`:

```
obj = dom.parse(document, {custom_void = true})
```

An empty table will disable all void elements. This setting is recommended for common xml documents.

## 2.3 Node selection methods

There are some other methods for element retrieving.

### 2.3.1 The `DOM_Object:get_path` method

If you want to print text content of all child elements of the body element, you can use `DOM_Object:get_path`:

```
local path = obj:get_path("html body")
for _, el in ipairs(path[1]:get_children()) do
    print(el:get_text())
end
```

The `DOM_Object:get_path` function always return array with all elements which match the requested path, even it there is only one such element. In this case, it is possible to use standard Lua table indexing to get the first and only one matched element and get it's children using `DOM_Object:get_children` method. If the children node is an element, it's text content is printed using `DOM_Object:get_text`.

```
test
hello
another paragraph
first second
```

### 2.3.2 The `DOM_Object:query_selector` method

This method uses CSS `selector` syntax to select elements, similarly to JavaScript *jQuery* library.

```
for _, el in ipairs(obj:query_selector("h1,p")) do
    print(el:get_text())
end
```

```
test
hello
another paragraph
```

It supports also XML namespaces, using `namespace|element` syntax.

### 2.3.3 Supported CSS selectors

The `query_selector` method supports following CSS selectors:

**Universal selector** – `*` – select any element.

**Type selector** – `elementname` – Selects all elements that have the given node name.

**Class selector** – `.classname` – Selects all elements that have the given class attribute.

**ID selector** – `#idname` – Selects an element based on the value of its id attribute.

**Attribute selector** – `[attrname='value']` – Selects all elements that have the given attribute. It can have the following variants: `[attrname]` – elements that contain given attribute, `[attr|=value]` – attribute text is exactly the value, with optional hyphen at the end, `[attr~='value']` – attribute name of attr whose value is a whitespace-separated list of words, one of which is exactly value, `[attr^='value']` – attribute text starts with value, `[attr$='value']` – attribute text ends with value.

**Grouping selector** – `,` – This is a grouping method, it selects all the matching nodes.

It is also possible to combine selectors using *combinators* to make more specific searches. Supported combinators:

**Descendant combinator** – `A B` – match all B elements that are inside A elements.

**Child combinator** – `A > B` – match B elements that are nested directly inside a A element.

**General sibling combinator** – `A ~ B` – the second element follows the first (though not necessarily immediately), and both share the same parent.

**Adjacent sibling combinator** – `A + B` – the second element directly follows the first, and both share the same parent.

LuaXML also supports some CSS pseudo-classes. A pseudo-class is a keyword added to a selector that specifies a special state of the selected element. The following are supported:

**:first-child** – matches an element that is the first of its siblings.

**:first-of-type** – matches an element that is the first of its siblings, and also matches a certain type selector.

**:last-child** – matches an element that is the last of its siblings.

**:last-of-type** – matches an element that is the last of its siblings, and also matches a certain type selector.

**:nth-child** – matches elements based on their position in a group of siblings. It can be used like this: `li:nth-child(2)`.

## 2.4 Element traversing

### 2.4.1 The `DOM_Object:traverse_elements` method

It may be useful to traverse over all elements and apply a function on all of them.

```
obj:traverse_elements(function(node)
    print(node:get_text())
end)
```

```

sample test hello another paragraph first second
sample test hello another paragraph first second
sample
sample
  test hello another paragraph first second
test
hello
another paragraph
  first second
first
second

```

The `get_text` method gets text from all children elements, so the first line shows all text contained in the `<html>` element, the second one in `<head>` element and so on.

## 2.5 DOM modifications

It is possible to add new elements, text nodes, or to remove them.

```

local headers = obj:query_selector("h1")
for _, header in ipairs(headers) do
  header:remove_node()
end
-- query selector returns array, we must retrieve the first element
-- to get the actual body element
local body = obj:query_selector("body")[1]
local paragraph = body:create_element("p", {})
body:add_child_node(paragraph)
paragraph:add_child_node(paragraph:create_text_node("This is a second paragraph"))

for _, el in ipairs(body:get_children()) do
  if el:is_element() then
    print(el:get_element_name().. ": " .. el:get_text())
  end
end
end

```

In this example, `<h1>` element is being removed from the sample document, and new paragraph is added. Two paragraphs should be shown in the output:

```

p: hello
p: another paragraph
ul: first second
p: This is a second paragraph

```

### 2.5.1 Adding raw XML and HTML string

You can also set XML or HTML markup from a string to an element using the `DOM_Object:inner_html` function. Pass `true` as the second argument to parse

string as XML, it is parsed as HTML otherwise.

```
local document = [[
<html><p>hello</p>
</html>
]]
local tree = dom.html_parse(document)
local p = tree:query_selector("p")[1]
-- insert inner_html as XML
p:inner_html("hello <b>this</b> should be the new content")
print(tree:serialize())
```

In this example, we replace contents of the first <p> element by new content.

```
<html><p>hello <b>this</b> should be the new
content</p> </html>
```

There are more variants of raw string methods that add the new content at specific places in the element instead of replacing contents of the element:

`DOM_Object:insert_before_begin` – before element.

`DOM_Object:insert_after_begin` – just inside the element, before its first child.

`DOM_Object:insert_before_end` – just inside the element, after its last child.

`DOM_Object:insert_after_end` – after the element.

### 3 The CssQuery library

This library serves mainly as a support for the `DOM_Object:query_selector` function. It also supports adding information to the DOM tree.

#### 3.1 Example usage

```
local cssobj = require "luaxml-cssquery"
local domobj = require "luaxml-domobject"

local xmltext = [[
<html>
<body>
<h1>Header</h1>
<p>Some text, <i>italics</i></p>
</body>
</html>
]]

local dom = domobj.parse(xmltext)
local css = cssobj()

css:add_selector("h1", function(obj)
    print("header found: " .. obj:get_text())
```



```

end)

css:add_selector("p", function(obj)
  print("paragraph found: " .. obj:get_text())
end)

css:add_selector("i", function(obj)
  print("found italics: " .. obj:get_text())
end)

dom:traverse_elements(function(el)
  -- find selectors that match the current element
  local querylist = css:match_querylist(el)
  -- add templates to the element
  css:apply_querylist(el,querylist)
end)

```

```

header found: Header
paragraph found: Some text, italics
found italics: italics

```

More complete example may be found in the `examples` directory in the LuaXML source code repository<sup>2</sup>.

## 4 The luaxml-transform library

This library is still a bit experimental. It enables XML transformation based on CSS selector templates.

It isn't nearly as powerful as XSLT, but it may suffice for simpler tasks.

### 4.1 Basic example

```

local transform = require "luaxml-transform"

local transformer = transform.new()
local xml_text = [[<section>hello <b>world</b></section>]]

-- transformatio rules
transformer:add_action("section", "\\section{@<.>}")
transformer:add_action("b", "\\textbf{@<.>}")

-- transform and print the result to the document
local result = transformer:parse_xml(xml_text)
transform.print_tex("\\verb|" .. result .. "|")

```

```

\section{hello \textbf{world}}

```

<sup>2</sup><https://github.com/michal-h21/LuaXML/blob/master/examples/xmltotex.lua>

## 4.2 The Transform object

The `luaxml-transform` library provides several functions. Most important of them is `new()`. It returns a Transform object, that can be used for the transformations. It is possible to transform XML using text templates, or Lua functions. In both cases, actions for elements are selected using CSS selectors. If there is no action for an element, it's text content and text from transformed child elements, is placed to the output string.

There are two methods for action specification, `add_action` for text templates, and `add_custom_action` for Lua functions.

### 4.2.1 Transforming using templates

Template actions can be added using the `add_action` method:

```
transformer:add_action("CSS selector", "template", {parameters table})
```

For details about CSS selectors, see the `CssQuery` library (see page 8). Templates can contain arbitrary text, with special instructions that can insert transformed text contents of the element, contents of specific element, or element's attributes.

#### Instruction syntax:

@{attribute name} insert value of an attribute

@<.> insert transformed content of the element

%s insert transformed content of the element. Shortcut for @<.>.

@<number> insert transformed content of the child element selected by it's number in the list of children

@<element name> insert transformed content of the named child element

#### Parameters

The parameters table can hold following values:

**verbatim** – used for source code listings and similar texts, that should keep their original formatting. Special characters are not escaped, so you will want to transform the elements into verbatim or listings environment.

**separator** – when you select element by names (@<element name>), you can use this parameter set the separator between possible multiple instances of the child element.

#### Examples:

##### Process children

```
local transformer = transform.new()
transformer:add_action("a", "@<.>")
-- ignore element <b>
transformer:add_action("b", "")
local result = transformer:parse_xml("<x><a>hello</a><b>, world</b></x>")
transformer:print_tex(result)
```

```
hello
```

### Select elements by their position

```
local transformer = transform.new()
-- swap child elements
transformer:add_action("x", "@<2>, @<1>")
local result = transformer:parse_xml("<x><a>world</a>, <b>hello</b></x>")
transform.print_tex(result)
```

```
hello, world
```

### Select elements by name

```
local transformer = transform.new()
transformer:add_action("x", "@<a>")
local result = transformer:parse_xml("<x><a>hello</a><b>, world</b></x>")
transform.print_tex(result)
```

```
hello
```

### Select attributes

```
local transformer = transform.new()
transformer:add_action("b", "\\textbf{@<.}&#x27;")
-- this will select only <b> elements with "style" attribute
transformer:add_action("b[style]", "\\textcolor{@{style}}{\\textbf{@<.}&#x27;")
local text = '<x><b>hello</b> <b style="red">world</b></x>'
local result = transformer:parse_xml(text)
transform.print_tex(result)
```

```
\textbf{hello} \textcolor{red}{\textbf{world}}
```

## 4.2.2 Transforming using Lua functions

You can use Lua functions for more complex transformations where simple templates don't suffice.

```
transformer:add_custom_action("CSS selector", function)
```

### Example

```
local transformer = transform.new()
local xml_text = "<x><a>world</a><b>hello, </b></x>"
-- load helper functions
local get_child_element = transform.get_child_element
local process_children = transform.process_children
-- define custom action
transformer:add_custom_action("x", function(el)
```

```

-- it basically just swaps child elements,
-- like in the template @<2>@<1>
local first = process_children(get_child_element(e1, 1))
local second = process_children(get_child_element(e1, 2))
return second .. first
end)
local result = transformer:parse_xml(xml_text)
transform.print_tex(result)

```

hello, world

### 4.2.3 Character handling

You may want to escape certain characters, or replace them with L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X commands. You can use the `unicodes` table contained in the Transform object:

```

local transformer = transform.new()
-- you must use the Unicode character code
transformer.unicodes[124] = "\\textbar"
local text = '<x>|</x>'
local result = transformer:parse_xml(text)
transform.print_tex(result)

```

\textbar

## 5 Character sets handling

The `luaxml-encodings` library provides functions to convert texts in legacy 8-bit encodings such as WINDOWS-1250 or ISO-8859-2 to UTF-8. This can be useful in fixing document encoding before HTML parsing using the `luaxml-mod-html` library.

### 5.1 Example

```

kpse.set_program_name "luatex"
local encodings = require "luaxml-encodings"

--read HTML page from the standard input
local text = io.read("*all")
-- find the character encoding in HTML metadata
local enc = encodings.find_html_encoding(text)
if enc then
  -- local conversion table for the found encoding
  local mapping = encodings.load_mapping(enc)
  if mapping then
    -- if the mapping exists, recode the HTML input and print it
    local converted = encodings.recode(text, mapping)
    print(converted)
  end
end
end

```

## 6 The `luaxml.sty` Package

The `luaxml.sty` package is designed to provide an interface for defining transformation rules for XML and HTML documents using Lua and  $\LaTeX$  commands. It allows users to declare transformation objects, apply transformation rules based on CSS selectors, and process XML or HTML from files or code snippets within  $\LaTeX$  documents.

XML and HTML documents can be inserted from files or directly via commands and environments. All commands and environments intended for code input have two variants: with an asterisk for inputting HTML documents and without an asterisk for inputting XML documents.

### 6.1 Package Options

**default** – load HTML templates. They will be available as `html` option in `luaxml.sty` commands and environments.

```
\usepackage[default]{luaxml}
...

\begin{LXMLCode*}{html}
  <p>Hello <b>world</b> and some text in <i>italics</i>.</p>
\end{LXMLCode*}
```

Hello **world** and some text in *italics*.

### 6.2 Example of Transformation Using $\LaTeX$ Commands

```
\LXMLRule[sample]{h1}|\par\noindent{\large\bfseries %s\par}|
\LXMLRule[sample]{p}|\%s\par|
\LXMLRule[sample]{a[href]}|\href{@{href}}{\%s}|
  %% process HTML code
\begin{LXMLCode*}{sample}
<html>
<h1>Hello</h1>
<p>Here is a link to <a href="https://tex.stackexchange.com/">TeX.sx</a>
</p>
</html>
\end{LXMLCode*}
```

Hello  
Here is a link to [TeX.sx](https://tex.stackexchange.com/)

### 6.3 Declaring Transformation Rules

```
\LXMLRule[<options>]{<CSS selector>}|<transformation rule>|
```

Defines a transformation rule for the current transformer. The transformation is applied to elements matching the given CSS selector. You can define multiple

transformers, for example if you want to support multiple XML syntaxes and HTML at the same time.

The `<options>` parameter can include:

- `verbatim`: Whether to process the rule in verbatim mode.
- `transformer`: Specifies a transformer.

Any unknown key acts as a name of the transformer. In the following code, both examples add a rule to a transformer named `sample`.

```
\XMLRule[transformer=sample]{b}|\textbf{%s}|
\xXMLRule[sample]{i}|\textit{%s}|
```

If you want to support only one syntax though, you don't need to specify the transformer name at all, a default object will be used.

By default, spaces are collapsed. If you want to support elements where white spaces should be preserved, such as HTML `<pre>` element, use the `verbatim` option:

```
\XMLRule[verbatim]{pre}|\begin{verbatim}
%s
\end{verbatim}|
```

The `transformation` rule must be delimited by a pair of characters that are not used in the text of the rule. We use `|` in our examples, but you can use other characters if you like. This is similar to how the `\verb` command works. You can use the syntax shown in the section 4.2.1 (page 10).

The following code defines rule that transforms the `<h1>` element to a `\section` command, and `<a>` element which has a `href` attribute to `\href`. URL of the link is used thanks to the `@{href}` rule.

```
\XMLRule{h1}|\section{%s}|
\xXMLRule{a[href]}|\href{@{href}}{%s}|
```

## 6.4 Content Transformation

```
\XMLSnippet[<transformer name>]{<XML code>}
\xXMLSnippet* [<transformer name>]{<HTML code>}
```

The `\XMLSnippet` command processes a code snippet as XML or HTML. Use the starred variant for HTML input. The `<transformer name>` argument specifies the transformer object to apply (default is used if empty). The code to be transformed is passed in the second argument.

XML snippet transformation:

```
\XMLRule[xmlsnippet]{title}|title: %s|
\xXMLSnippet{<root><title>Hello</title></root>}
```

title: Hello

HTML snippet transformation:

```
\LXMLRule[htmlsnippet]{h1}|title: %s|
\LXMLSnippet*[htmlsnippet]{<div><h1>Header</h1></div>}
```

title: Header

```
\LXMLInputFile[<transformer>]{<XML file path>}
\LXMLInputFile*[<transformer>]{<HTML file path>}
```

Processes a file as XML or HTML. Use the starred variant for HTML input. The `<transformer>` specifies the transformer object to apply (default is used if empty). The file path is passed in the second argument.

#### Environments

```
\begin{LXMLCode}{<transformer>} ... \end{LXMLCode}
```

Processes XML code inside the environment. The `<transformer>` specifies the transformer object to apply (default is used if empty).

```
\LXMLRule[xmlenv]{element}|hello: %s|
\begin{LXMLCode}{xmlenv}
<root>
  <element>Some content</element>
</root>
\end{LXMLCode}
```

hello: Some content

```
\begin{LXMLCode*}{<transformer>} ... \end{LXMLCode*}
```

Processes HTML code inside the environment. The `<transformer>` specifies the transformer object to apply (default is used if empty).

```
\LXMLRule[htmlenv]{p}|paragraph: %s|
\begin{LXMLCode*}{htmlenv}
<div>
  <p>Some HTML content</p>
</div>
\end{LXMLCode*}
```

paragraph: Some HTML content

## 7 The API documentation

### 7.1 luaxml-domobject

DOM module for LuaXML

#### 7.1.1 Class: Functions

##### **serialize\_dom(parser, current, level, output)**

It serializes the DOM object back to the XML.

##### **Parameters:**

**parser:** DOM object

**current:** Element which should be serialized

**level:**

**output:**

##### **Return:**

table Table with XML strings. It can be concatenated using `table.concat()` function to get XML string corresponding to the `DOM_Object`.

##### **parse(xmltext, voidElements)**

XML parsing function Parse the XML text and create the DOM object.

##### **Parameters:**

**xmltext:**

**voidElements:** hash table with void elements

##### **Return:**

`DOM_Object`

#### 7.1.2 Class: Class `DOM_Object`

##### **`DOM_Object:root_node()`**

Returns root element of the `DOM_Object`

##### **Parameters:**

##### **Return:**

`DOM_Object`

##### **`DOM_Object:get_node_type(el)`**

Get current node type

##### **Parameters:**

**el:** [optional] node to get the type of

##### **`DOM_Object:is_element(el)`**

Test if the current node is an element.

##### **Parameters:**

**el:** [optional] element to test

##### **Return:**

boolean

##### **`DOM_Object:is_text(el)`**

Test if current node is text



**Parameters:**  
e1: [optional] element to test  
**Return:**  
boolean

**DOM\_Object:get\_element\_name(e1)**  
Return name of the current element  
**Parameters:**  
e1: [optional] element to test  
**Return:**  
string

**DOM\_Object:get\_attribute(name)**  
Get value of an attribute  
**Parameters:**  
name: Attribute name  
**Return:**  
string

**DOM\_Object:set\_attribute(name, value)**  
Set value of an attribute  
**Parameters:**  
name:  
value: Value to be set  
**Return:**  
boolean

**DOM\_Object:serialize(current)**  
Serialize the current node back to XML  
**Parameters:**  
current: [optional] element to be serialized  
**Return:**  
string

**DOM\_Object:get\_text(current)**  
Get text content from the node and all of it's children  
**Parameters:**  
current: [optional] element which should be converted to text  
**Return:**  
string

**DOM\_Object:get\_path(path, current)**  
Retrieve elements from the given path.  
**Parameters:**  
path:  
current: [optional] element which should be traversed. Default element is the root element of the DOM\_Object  
**Return:**  
table of elements which match the path

**DOM\_Object:query\_selector(selector)**

Select elements children using CSS selector syntax

**Parameters:**

**selector:** String using the CSS selector syntax

**Return:**

table with elements matching the selector.

**DOM\_Object:get\_children(el)**

Get table with children of the current element

**Parameters:**

**el:** [optional] element to be selected

**Return:**

table with children of the selected element

**DOM\_Object:get\_parent(el)**

Get the parent element

**Parameters:**

**el:** [optional] element to be selected

**Return:**

DOM\_Object parent element

**DOM\_Object:traverse(fn, current)**

Execute function on the current element and all it's children nodes.

**Parameters:**

**fn:** function which will be executed on the current element and all it's children

**current:** [optional] element to be selected

**DOM\_Object:traverse\_elements(fn, current)**

Execute function on the current element and all it's children elements.

**Parameters:**

**fn:** function which will be executed on the current element and all it's children

**current:** [optional] element to be selected

**Return:**

nothing

**DOM\_Object:strings(current)**

Get table with the inner text of an element, every text node is a separate table item.

**Parameters:**

**current:** [optional] element to be selected

**Return:**

table

**DOM\_Object:stripped\_strings(current)**

Get table with the inner text of an element - leading and trailing spaces are removed and elements that contain only white space are ignored.

**Parameters:**

**current:** [optional] element to be selected

**Return:**

table

**DOM\_Object:traverse\_node\_list(nodelist, fn)**

Execute function on list of elements returned by DOM\_Object:get\_path()

**Parameters:**

nodelist:

fn: function to be executed

**DOM\_Object:replace\_node(new)**

Replace the current node with new one

**Parameters:**

new: element which should replace the current element

**Return:**

boolean, message

**DOM\_Object:add\_child\_node(child, position)**

Add child node to the current node

**Parameters:**

child: element to be inserted as a current node child

position: [optional] position at which should the node be inserted

**DOM\_Object:copy\_node(element)**

Create copy of the current node

**Parameters:**

element: [optional] element to be copied

**Return:**

DOM\_Object element

**DOM\_Object:create\_element(name, attributes, parent)**

Create a new element

**Parameters:**

name: New tag name

attributes: Table with attributes

parent: [optional] element which should be saved as the element's parent

**Return:**

DOM\_Object element

**DOM\_Object:create\_text\_node(text, parent)**

Create new text node

**Parameters:**

text: string

parent: [optional] element which should be saved as the element's parent

**Return:**

DOM\_Object text object

**DOM\_Object:remove\_node(element)**

Delete current node

**Parameters:**

element: [optional] element to be removed

**DOM\_Object:find\_element\_pos(el)**

Find the element position in the current node list

**Parameters:**

e1: [optional] element which should be looked up

**Return:**

integer position of the current element in the element table

**DOM\_Object:get\_siblings(el)**

Get node list which current node is part of

**Parameters:**

e1: [optional] element for which the sibling element list should be retrieved

**Return:**

table with elements

**DOM\_Object:get\_sibling\_node(change)**

Get sibling node of the current node

**Parameters:**

change: Distance from the current node

**Return:**

DOM\_Object node

**DOM\_Object:get\_next\_node(el)**

Get next node

**Parameters:**

e1: [optional] node to be used

**Return:**

DOM\_Object node

**DOM\_Object:get\_prev\_node(el)**

Get previous node

**Parameters:**

e1: [optional] node to be used

**Return:**

DOM\_Object node

**DOM\_Object:create\_template(str, is\_xml)**

parse string as HTML or XML and return created elements

**Parameters:**

str:

is\_xml: <> is a dummy element, we just need to wrap everything in some element

**Return:**

table elements

**DOM\_Object:inner\_html(str, is\_xml)**

parse string as HTML or XML and insert it as a child of the current node

**Parameters:**

str: HTML or XML to be inserted

is\_xml: [optional] Pass true to parse as XML, otherwise parse as HTML

**DOM\_Object:insert\_before\_begin(str, is\_xml)**

parse string as HTML or XML and insert it before current the element

**Parameters:**

**str:** HTML or XML to be inserted

**is\_xml:** [optional] Pass true to parse as XML, otherwise parse as HTML

**DOM\_Object:insert\_after\_begin(str, is\_xml)**

parse string as HTML or XML and insert it at the beginning of the current the element

**Parameters:**

**str:** HTML or XML to be inserted

**is\_xml:** [optional] Pass true to parse as XML, otherwise parse as HTML

**DOM\_Object:insert\_before\_end(str, is\_xml)**

parse string as HTML or XML and insert it at the end of the current the element

**Parameters:**

**str:** HTML or XML to be inserted

**is\_xml:** [optional] Pass true to parse as XML, otherwise parse as HTML

**DOM\_Object:insert\_after\_end(str, is\_xml)**

parse string as HTML or XML and insert it after current the element

**Parameters:**

**str:** HTML or XML to be inserted

**is\_xml:** [optional] Pass true to parse as XML, otherwise parse as HTML

**DOM\_Object.html\_parse(html\_str)**

Parse HTML text as a DOM object.

**Parameters:**

**html\_str:** string with the HTML code to be parsed

**Return:**

DOM\_Object

## 7.2 luaxml-cssquery

CSS query module for LuaXML

### 7.2.1 Class: Functions

**cssquery()**

CssQuery constructor

**Parameters:**

**Return:**

CssQuery object

### 7.2.2 Class: Class CssQuery

**CssQuery:calculate\_specificity(query)**

Calculate CSS specificity of the query

**Parameters:**

**query:** table created by `CssQuery:prepare_selector()` function

**Return:**

integer specificity value

**CssQuery:match\_querylist(domobj, querylist)**

Test prepared querylist

**Parameters:**

**domobj:** DOM element to test

**querylist:** [optional] List of queries to test

**Return:**

table with CSS queries, which match the selected DOM element

**CssQuery:get\_selector\_path(domobj, selectorlist)**

Get elements that match the selector

**Parameters:**

**domobj:** DOM\_Object

**selectorlist:** `prepare_selector`

**Return:**

table with DOM\_Object elements

**CssQuery:prepare\_selector(selector)**

Parse CSS selector to a query table.

**Parameters:**

**selector:** string CSS selector query

**Return:**

table querylist

**CssQuery:add\_selector(selector, func, params)**

Add selector to CSS object list of selectors, `func` is called when the selector matches a DOM object `params` is table which will be passed to the `func`

**Parameters:**

**selector:** CSS selector string

**func:** function which will be executed on matched elements

**params:** table with parameters for the function

**Return:**

integer number of elements in the prepared selector

**CssQuery:sort\_querylist(querylist)**

Sort selectors according to their specificity It is called automatically when the selector is added

**Parameters:**

**querylist:** [optional] querylist table

**Return:**

querylist table

**CssQuery:remove\_selector(selector)**

Remove selector from the CSS list object.

**Parameters:**

**selector:** CSS selector to be removed

**CssQuery:apply\_querylist(domobj, querylist)**

It tests list of queries against a DOM element and executes the corresponding function that is saved for the matched query.

**Parameters:**

domobj: DOM element

querylist: querylist table

**Return:**

nothing

### 7.3 luaxml-transform

XML transformation module for LuaXML

#### 7.3.1 Class: Functions

**process\_children(element, parameters)**

Transform DOM element and it's children

**Parameters:**

element: DOM element

parameters: Table with settings

**Return:**

Transformed string

**get\_child\_element(element, count)**

return nth child element

**Parameters:**

element: DOM element to be processed

count: Number of child element that should be returned

**Return:**

DOM object, or nil if it cannot be found

**simple\_content(s, parameters)**

Default transforming function.

**Parameters:**

s: Template string

parameters: Table with settings

**Return:**

transforming function

**add\_custom\_action(selector, fn, csspar)**

Use function to transform selected element

**Parameters:**

selector: CSS selector for the matching element

fn: Function that transforms the selected DOM element.

csspar: cssquery object. Default is set by the library, so it is not necessary to use.

**add\_action(selector, template, parameters, csspar)**

Use template to transform selected template

**Parameters:**

**selector:** CSS selector for the matching element

**template:** String template

**parameters:** Table with extra parameters. Use "verbatim=true" to keep spacing in the processed text.

**csspar:** cssquery object. Default is set by the library, so it is not necessary to use.

**reset\_actions(selector, csspar)**

Remove actions for a given selector

**Parameters:**

**selector:** CSS selector for the matching element

**csspar:** cssquery object. Default is set by the library, so it is not necessary to use.

**parse\_xml(content)**

Transform XML string

**Parameters:**

**content:** String with XML content

**Return:**

transformed string

**load\_file(filename)**

Transform XML file

**Parameters:**

**filename:** XML file name

**Return:**

transformed string

**process\_dom(dom)**

Transform XML DOM object

**Parameters:**

**dom:** DOM object

**Return:**

transformed string

**print\_tex(content)**

print transformed file to PDF using LuaTeX functions

**Parameters:**

**content:** String to be printed

**new()**

Make new Transformer object

**Parameters:****Return:**

Transformer object



### 7.3.2 Class: Class Transformer

#### **Transformer:add\_action(selector, template, parameters)**

add a new template

##### **Parameters:**

**selector:** CSS selector that should be matched

**template:** use %s for element's text, and @ {name} to access attribute "name"

**parameters:** table with extra parameters

#### **Transformer:add\_custom\_action(selector, fn)**

Use function for transformation

##### **Parameters:**

**selector:** CSS selector that should be matched

**fn:** DOM transforming function

#### **Transformer:reset\_actions(selector)**

Remove all actions that match the given selector

##### **Parameters:**

**selector:** string

#### **Transformer:parse\_xml(content)**

Parse XML string

##### **Parameters:**

**content:** String with XML content

##### **Return:**

transformed string

#### **Transformer:load\_file(filename)**

Transform XML file

##### **Parameters:**

**filename:** XML file name

##### **Return:**

transformed string

#### **Transformer:process\_dom(dom)**

Transform XML DOM object

##### **Parameters:**

**dom:** DOM object

##### **Return:**

transformed string

## 7.4 luaxml-mod-html

HTML parsing module for LuaXML

### 7.4.1 Class: Class HtmlParser

#### **HtmlParser:init(body)**

Initialize the HTML Object

**Parameters:**

body: string HTML to be parsed

**Return:**

table initialized object

**HtmlParser:parse()**

Execute the HTML parser

**Parameters:****Return:**

table Root node of the HTML DOM

## 7.5 luaxml-encodings

Convert 8-bit encodings to UTF-8

### 7.5.1 Class: Local functions

**find\_html\_encoding(str, len)**

Try to find an encoding in HTML string

**Parameters:**

str: string HTML document

len: number count of characters from the start of the string where it should search for the encoding metadata

**Return:**

string encoding identifier, or nil and message if no encoding was found

**recode(text, mapping)**

Convert string to utf-8

**Parameters:**

text: string for converting

mapping: table

**Return:**

string converted string

## 7.6 luaxml-sty

Helper functions for the luaxml.sty package

### 7.6.1 Class: Functions

**luaxml\_sty.declare\_transformer(name)**

Declare new transformer

**Parameters:**

name: string transformer name

**Return:**

table transformer object

**luaxml\_sty.add\_rule(current, selector, rule)**

Add luaxml-transform rule

**Parameters:**

**current:** string transformer name, empty for the default object

**selector:** string CSS selector to be used

**rule:** string luaxml-transform rule

**luaxml\_sty.set\_xml()**

Use XML parser for parsing of next snippets

**Parameters:**

**luaxml\_sty.set\_html()**

Use HTML parser for parsing of next snippets

**Parameters:**

**luaxml\_sty.parse\_snippet(current, xml\_string)**

transform XML string and print it to the output

**Parameters:**

**current:** string transformer name, empty for the default object

**xml\_string:** string to be transformed

**luaxml\_sty.parse\_file(current, filename)**

Transform file

**Parameters:**

**current:** string transformer name, empty for the default object

**filename:** string file to be transformed

**luaxml\_sty.store\_lines(env\_name, callback\_name)**

parse environment contents using Lua

**Parameters:**

**env\_name:** string environment name

**callback\_name:** string name which will be used in the callback registration

**Return:**

function idea from <https://tex.stackexchange.com/a/574323/2891>

**luaxml\_sty.register\_verbatim(env\_name)**

require line grabbing for an environment

**Parameters:**

**env\_name:** string environment name

**luaxml\_sty.print\_verbatim(transformer)**

parse content of the previous environment registered using `luaxml_sty.register_verbatim()` and print the transformed content

**Parameters:**

**transformer:** string transformer name, empty for the default object

## 8 Low-level functions usage

The original LuaXML library provides some low-level functions for XML handling. First of all, we need to load the libraries:

```
xml = require('luaxml-mod-xml')
handler = require('luaxml-mod-handler')
```

The `luaxml-mod-xml` file contains the xml parser and also the serializer. In `luaxml-mod-handler`, various handlers for dealing with xml data are defined. Handlers transforms the xml file to data structures which can be handled from the Lua code. More information about handlers can be found in the original documentation, section [15](#).

### 8.1 The simpleTreeHandler

```
sample = [[
<a>
  <d>hello</d>
  <b>world.</b>
  <b at="Hi">another</b>
</a>]]
treehandler = handler.simpleTreeHandler()
x = xml.xmlParser(treehandler)
x:parse(sample)
```

You have to create handler object, using `handler.simpleTreeHandler()` and xml parser object using `xml.xmlParser(handler object)`. `simpleTreehandler` creates simple table hierarchy, with top root node in `treehandler.root`

```
-- pretty printing function
function printable(tb, level)
  level = level or 1
  local spaces = string.rep(' ', level*2)
  for k,v in pairs(tb) do
    if type(v) ~= "table" then
      print(spaces .. k..'='..'v)
    else
      print(spaces .. k)
      level = level + 1
      printable(v, level)
    end
  end
end

-- print table
printable(treehandler.root)
-- print xml serialization of table
print(xml.serialize(treehandler.root))
-- direct access to the element
print(treehandler.root["a"]["b"][1])
```

This code produces the following output:

output:

```

a
  d=hello
  b
    1=world.
    2
      1=another
      _attr
        at=Hi
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>
<a>
  <d>hello</d>
  <b>world.</b>
  <b at="Hi">
    another
  </b>
</a>

world.

```

First part is pretty-printed dump of Lua table structure contained in the handler, the second part is xml serialized from that table and the last part demonstrates direct access to particular elements.

Note that `simpleTreeHandler` creates tables that can be easily accessed using standard lua functions, but if the xml document is of mixed-content type<sup>3</sup>:

```

<a>hello
  <b>world</b>
</a>

```

then it produces wrong results. It is useful mostly for data xml files, not for text formats like `xhtml`.

## 8.2 The domHandler

For complex xml documents, it is best to use the `domHandler`, which creates object which contains all information from the xml document.

```

-- file dom-sample.lua
-- next line enables scripts called with texlua to use luatex libraries
--kpse.set_program_name("luatex")
function traverseDom(current,level)
  local level = level or 0
  local spaces = string.rep(" ",level)
  local root= current or current.root
  local name = root._name or "unnamed"
  local xtype = root._type or "untyped"
  local attributes = root._attr or {}
  if xtype == "TEXT" then
    print(spaces .."TEXT : " .. root._text)
  else
    print(spaces .. xtype .. " : " .. name)
  end
end

```

---

<sup>3</sup>This means that element may contain both children elements and text.

```

for k, v in pairs(attributes) do
    print(spaces .. " " .. k.."="..v)
end
local children = root._children or {}
for _, child in ipairs(children) do
    traverseDom(child, level + 1)
end
end
end

local xml = require('luaxml-mod-xml')
local handler = require('luaxml-mod-handler')
local x = '<p>hello <a href="http://world.com/">world</a>, how are you?</p>'
local domHandler = handler.domHandler()
local parser = xml.xmlParser(domHandler)
parser:parse(x)
traverseDom(domHandler.root)

```

The ROOT element is stored in `domHandler.root` table, it's child nodes are stored in `_children` tables. Node type is saved in `_type` field, if the node type is ELEMENT, then `_name` field contains element name, `_attr` table contains element attributes. TEXT node contains text content in `_text` field.

The previous code produces following output in the terminal:

```

ROOT : unnamed
ELEMENT : p
TEXT : hello
ELEMENT : a
    href=http://world.com/
TEXT : world
TEXT : , how are you?

```

## Part I

# Original LuaXML documentation by Paul Chakravarti

This document was created automatically from the original source code comments using Pandoc<sup>4</sup>

## 9 Overview

This module provides a non-validating XML stream parser in Lua.

## 10 Features

- Tokenises well-formed XML (relatively robustly)
- Flexible handler based event api (see below)
- Parses all XML Infoset elements - ie.
  - Tags
  - Text
  - Comments
  - CDATA
  - XML Decl
  - Processing Instructions
  - DOCTYPE declarations
- Provides limited well-formedness checking (checks for basic syntax & balanced tags only)
- Flexible whitespace handling (selectable)
- Entity Handling (selectable)

## 11 Limitations

- Non-validating
- No charset handling
- No namespace support
- Shallow well-formedness checking only (fails to detect most semantic errors)

---

<sup>4</sup><https://pandoc.org>

## 12 API

The parser provides a partially object-oriented API with functionality split into tokeniser and handler components.

The handler instance is passed to the tokeniser and receives callbacks for each XML element processed (if a suitable handler function is defined). The API is conceptually similar to the SAX API but implemented differently.

The following events are generated by the tokeniser

```
handler:starttag      - Start Tag
handler:endtag        - End Tag
handler:text          - Text
handler:decl          - XML Declaration
handler:pi            - Processing Instruction
handler:comment       - Comment
handler:dtd           - DOCTYPE definition
handler:cdata         - CDATA
```

The function prototype for all the callback functions is

```
callback(val,attrs,start,end)
```

where attrs is a table and val/attrs are overloaded for specific callbacks - ie.

Callback	val	attrs (table)
starttag	name	{ attributes (name=val).. }
endtag	name	nil
text	<text>	nil
cdata	<text>	nil
decl	"xml"	{ attributes (name=val).. }
pi	pi name	{ attributes (if present).. _text = <PI Text> }
comment	<text>	nil
dtd	root element	{ _root = <Root Element>, _type = SYSTEM PUBLIC, _name = <name>, _uri = <uri>, _internal = <internal dtd> }

(starttag & endtag provide the character positions of the start/end of the element)

XML data is passed to the parser instance through the 'parse' method (Note: must be passed as single string currently)

## 13 Options

Parser options are controlled through the 'self.options' table. Available options are -



- stripWS  
Strip non-significant whitespace (leading/trailing) and do not generate events for empty text elements
- expandEntities  
Expand entities (standard entities + single char numeric entities only currently - could be extended at runtime if suitable DTD parser added elements to table (see obj.\_ENTITIES). May also be possible to expand multibyte entities for UTF-8 only
- errorHandler  
Custom error handler function

NOTE: Boolean options must be set to 'nil' not '0'

## 14 Usage

Create a handler instance -

```
h = { starttag = function(t,a,s,e) .... end,
      endtag = function(t,a,s,e) .... end,
      text = function(t,a,s,e) .... end,
      cdata = text }
```

(or use predefined handler - see luaxml-mod-handler.lua)

Create parser instance -

```
p = xmlParser(h)
```

Set options -

```
p.options.xxxx = nil
```

Parse XML data -

```
xmlParser:parse("<?xml... ")
```

## 15 Handlers

### 15.1 Overview

Standard XML event handler(s) for XML parser module (luaxml-mod-xml.lua)

### 15.2 Features

printHandler	- Generate XML event trace
domHandler	- Generate DOM-like node tree
simpleTreeHandler	- Generate 'simple' node tree
simpleTeXhandler	- SAX like handler with support for CSS selectros

## 15.3 API

Must be called as handler function from xmlParser and implement XML event callbacks (see xmlParser.lua for callback API definition)

### 15.3.1 printHandler

printHandler prints event trace for debugging

### 15.3.2 domHandler

domHandler generates a DOM-like node tree structure with a single ROOT node parent - each node is a table comprising fields below.

```
node = { _name = <Element Name>,
         _type = ROOT|ELEMENT|TEXT|COMMENT|PI|DECL|DTD,
         _attr = { Node attributes - see callback API },
         _parent = <Parent Node>
         _children = { List of child nodes - ROOT/NODE only }
       }
```

### 15.3.3 simpleTreeHandler

simpleTreeHandler is a simplified handler which attempts to generate a more 'natural' table based structure which supports many common XML formats.

The XML tree structure is mapped directly into a recursive table structure with node names as keys and child elements as either a table of values or directly as a string value for text. Where there is only a single child element this is inserted as a named key - if there are multiple elements these are inserted as a vector (in some cases it may be preferable to always insert elements as a vector which can be specified on a per element basis in the options). Attributes are inserted as a child element with a key of '\_attr'.

Only Tag/Text & CDATA elements are processed - all others are ignored.

This format has some limitations - primarily

- Mixed-Content behaves unpredictably - the relationship between text elements and embedded tags is lost and multiple levels of mixed content does not work
- If a leaf element has both a text element and attributes then the text must be accessed through a vector (to provide a container for the attribute)

In general however this format is relatively useful.

## 15.4 Options

```
simpleTreeHandler.options.noReduce = { <tag> = bool,.. }
```

- Nodes not to reduce children vector even if only one child

```
domHandler.options.(comment|pi|dtd|decl)Node = bool
```

- Include/exclude given node types

## 15.5 Usage

Passed as delegate in xmlParser constructor and called as callback by xml-Parser:parse(xml) method.

## 16 History

This library is fork of LuaXML library originally created by Paul Chakravarti. Some files not needed for use with luatex were dropped from the distribution. Documentation was converted from original comments in the source code.

## 17 License

This code is freely distributable under the terms of the Lua license (<http://www.lua.org/copyright.html>)